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Kunimaipa language

Kunimaipa is a Papuan language of New Guinea. The varieties are divergent, on the verge of being distinct languages, and have separate literary traditions.

Contents

Kunimaipa	
Region	Papua New Guinea
Ethnicity	incl. Biangai
Native speakers	(14,000 cited 1978–2000)[1]
Language family	Papuan - Trans-New Guinea - Goilalan - Kunimaipa **Kunimaipa**
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	Variously: `kup` – Kunimaipa `wer` – Weri + Amam `big` – Biangai
Glottolog	kuni1267 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/kuni1267) Kunimaipa[2] weri1254 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/weri1254) Weric[3] bian1252 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/bian1252) Biangai[4]

Phonemes [5]

Consonants

Below is a chart of Kunimaipa consonants.

Table of consonant phonemes of Kunimaipa

	Labial	**Coronal**	**Velar**	**Glottal**
Nasal	m	n	ŋ	
Plosive	p b	t d	k g	
Fricative	v	s		h
Lateral approximant		l		
Trill		r		

Vowels

- " i, e, a, o, and u"

Morphophonemics [6]

Each stem that ends with a has three kinds of allomorphs: a, o, and e. Allomorphs end with a in a word finally or before a syllable with a. It is the most common ending. O ending appears before syllables with o, u, or ai. E ending appears before syllable with e or i. All of above holds true, except the ending syllable before -ma. In the general morphophonemic rule, ending a appears before syllable with a. In the case of -ma, o appears before the syllable with a. For example, the sentence so-ma, meaning 'I will go.'

Words [7]

Non-suffixed

Word classes that are usually not suffixed are responses, exclamations, attention particles, vocative particles, conjunctions, names, and particles. Responses are short replies on a conversation; such as, *kara* 'okay', ee 'yes', gu 'yes', *ev* 'no'. Exclamations is usually occurs on sentence boundary; such as, auma 'surprise', au 'mistake', maize 'regret', and aip 'dislike'. Attention particles are only used on reported speech; such as, *gui* 'call to come', ae 'attention getter', and siu 'attention getter -close'. Vocative particles are beginning of addresses in sentence boundary; such as, engarim 'hey, woman', erom 'hey, man', engarohol 'hey, children', and *guai* 'uncle'. Conjunctions are links in "phrases, clauses, and sentences"; such as, mete 'and, but, then', ma 'or, and', povoza 'therefore', and ong 'but, then'. Names label person, place, days, and months; such as, made-ta-ka, 'on Monday', and pode-ta-ka, 'on Thursday'. Lastly, one particles that is used in introducing a quote is never suffixed, pata meaning 'reply'.

Suffixed or non-suffixed

Word classes including adjectives, pronouns, interrogative words, nouns, and verbs can be suffixed or non-suffixed depending on the meaning and usage. Some example of adjectives in Kunimaipa are tina 'good', goe 'small', and hori 'bad'. The Kunimaipa language has 7 pronouns, including ne, ni, pi, rei, rari, aru, and paru. Example of od interrogative words are taira and tai meaning 'what'. Noun is a large word class including words such as abana 'men', abanaro 'young men', no nai nai 'everything', and mapo 'all'.

Not Classified According to suffixation

The word classes that cannot be classified by suffixation are locations, temporals, adverbs, and auxiliaries.

References

1. Kunimaipa (https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/kup/) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015) Weri + Amam (https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/wer/) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015) Biangai (https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/big/) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)

2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Kunimaipa" (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/kuni1267). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.

3. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Weric" (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/weri1254). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.

4. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Biangai" (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/bian1252). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.

5. Geary, Elaine (1977). Kunimaipa grammar: morphonemics to discourse. Ukarumpa: Summer Institute of Linguistics.
6. Geary, Elaine (1977). Kunimaipa grammar: morphonemics to discourse. Ukarumpa: Summer Institute of Linguistics.
7. Geary, Elaine (1977). Kunimaipa grammar: morphonemics to discourse. Ukarumpa: Summer Institute of Linguistics.

Further reading

- Aki, Mambu; Pennington, Ryan (2013). "Tentative Grammar Description" (https://www.academi a.edu/5207416/Tentative_grammar_description_for_the_Amam_language_spoken_in_Morobe _Province).
- Boxwel, Maurice (1992). "Organised Phonology Data" (https://web.archive.org/web/201807231 81550/http://www-01.sil.org/pacific/png/pubs/0000364/Weri.pdf) (PDF). Archived from the original (http://www-01.sil.org/pacific/png/pubs/0000364/Weri.pdf) (PDF) on 2018-07-23. Retrieved 2018-07-23.
- Dobrin, Lisa. n.d. *Noun classification in Weri*. Unpublished manuscript, Department of Anthropology, University of Virginia.